



News From

JUDY BIGGERT

CONGRESSWOMAN ♦ 13TH DISTRICT ♦ ILLINOIS

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Biggert To Will County: Courthouse Money Is On The Way *Secures \$470,000 for Court house Renovation*

Clarendon Hills, Illinois – Will County will receive \$470,000 in federal funding to renovate and expand its overcrowded county courthouse, U.S. Representative Judy Biggert (R-13th) told Will County officials today.

At Biggert's request, the money was included in the fiscal year 2002 Veterans Affairs-Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Appropriations Conference Report, which will be passed by the House of Representatives tomorrow.

"I witnessed firsthand the desperate need for additional space at the courthouse," said Biggert, who earlier this year toured the facility with County Executive Joseph L. Mikan, States Attorney Jeff Tomczak, and Circuit Judge Gerald Kinney.

"As an attorney, I've spent many hours in many courthouses over the years," said Biggert. "But never had I seen the crowded conditions under which Will County was operating."

Biggert said that following House and Senate passage, the bill should be signed by the President within the next week. The funds should be made available to the county within the next few months.

"We're excited and very grateful to be receiving this funding," said Joseph L. Mikan, Will County Executive. "There is no doubt that the courthouse project was one of the county's top priorities. We are grateful that Congresswoman Biggert decided to put this at the top of her list for the year."

The funding will help the County offset expenses for:

- renovating and restoring the existing courthouse to accommodate additional courtrooms;
- renovating and restoring an additional building near the courthouse to house the State Attorney's Office and the Circuit Clerk; and
- modifying the building to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

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